

the knowledge of the salvation of Jesus Christ.

"Thus you see the Word of God is being read where you least expected it. If I were to mention all the copies of the Scriptures that discharged and other soldiers carry with them to the interior, and the anecdotes connected with them, I could fill an interesting paper. Suffice it to say that the Word of God is being spread far and wide,—that the heaven of truth is permeating the community, and that very visibly."—*Ibid* for *Jany*.

#### A MONTH'S WORK AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

Mr O'Flaherty, our solitary missionary to the Turks, reports to the Secretary for the Mission, on his work for the month of December, as follows:—

"It is to be regretted that our Church does not make greater efforts to form a mission in this city or empire, and that she employs an instrumentality so weak and insignificant, the most unqualified of all her agents. . . . It has pleased God to open up a door of usefulness which becomes wider daily, and which, I trust, will be wide enough to admit our Church's entry and occupation. During the last five months, I have, besides many others, discussed gospel truth and proclaimed the way of salvation to an average of one hundred and twenty souls per month, *who have invited me for that purpose*; and while that number is increasing, and part of the old inquirers seek other means to learn the truth more fully, those numbers are for the most part different every month.

"But you will ask me, What is the result of all this? I cannot tell you. All that I wish to say is that four individuals desire baptism, four wish to place themselves under instruction, in order to be employed at a future time as native agents, and there are many who request me to establish a Scriptural class and devotional exercises in some central position, so that I might direct their studies, and encourage and give an impulse to their devotional feelings. The judgment alone can reveal the results. I am constrained to say, however, that the opportunity and privilege of fully and freely exhibiting Christ and his great salvation to one hundred and twenty souls per month, in-doors, and by special invitation, is of itself a work of sufficient magnitude to enlist the sympathies

and call forth the efforts of our dear Church. Is not this a mission in itself? It is true, the most of them are afraid to come to a place of public meeting. But many are ready to come.

"There is one aspect of this month's labor which is worth mentioning. A number of anxious and hopeful inquirers, ten in all, have come to me and have spent many hours in asking questions and in searching the Scriptures. Some have stayed till evening, others have stayed till late at night, others all night and next day in order to learn more. . . . Some of them have come twice, thrice, or oftener, so that I have done as much this month as formerly in the way of strengthening former impressions and clearing away objections, and have been thus able to realize the promise, 'When I am weak, then am I strong.' . . .

"The son of the head physician of Turkey has requested me to give him lessons in English. The young man is a major in the army, and son-in-law of the richest pasha in Turkey—the late commander in chief. He has studied in France and Germany; has been in London, to which place he also intends to go to see the Exhibition. I have had many an interesting conversation with him on the impossibility of the Koran being the word of God, &c. One day this month he came to me requesting me to give him lessons in English three times a week. I consented. The lessons are to be in his own house. When I went to give the third lesson, there was a very learned mufti there, who requested me to allow him to join the first pupil. I agreed. The mufti are those higher order of clerico-legal gentlemen from whom the Sheik-ul-Islam is taken. In Rome they call them cardinals, from whom the Pope is chosen. This mufti has studied the philosophy of the East very deeply; and besides, he has studied science five years in Paris; so that he is altogether a clever and interesting man. I procured the necessary class books, and they have furnished themselves with copies of the Scriptures in Turkish, Arabic, Persian and English. Another has joined, and ten more now wish to join.

"After having conversed as to the necessity and benefit of the English language in the present state of Turkish affairs, there was a proposal from the mufti, seconded by N. Effendi, the physician's son, that I should be proposed